Listing of the claims:

1-4 (previously canceled)

5. ((previously added)

A test kit comprising radiolabeled 25-hydroxyvitamin D_3, unlabled 25-hydroxyvitamin D_3 and instructions for the measurement of vitamin D binding proteins in urine as a marker for salt sensitivity in individuals.

6. (previously added)

A method of determining specific 25–hydroxyvitamin D binding activity in a urine sample comprising the steps of:

(1) collecting multiple identical samples of urine from an individual;

(2) adding a known amount of radiolabeled 25-hydroxyvitamin D_3 to all samples in step (1);

(3) adding a known amount of excess unlabeled 25-hydroxyvintamin D to half of the samples prepared in step (2) to compete with the radiolabeled 25-hydroxyvitamin D_3 for binding proteins in the urine;

(4) incubating all samples prepared in steps (2) and (3) to allow radiolabeled 25-hydroxyvitamin D_3 binding to proteins in the urine;

(5) Incubating samples prepared in step (4) in buffered extran-coated carcoal, then centrifuging to precipitate the unbound radiolabeled 25-hydroxyvitamin D_3

(6) measuring the average radioactivity in each sample;

(7) subtracting the average radioactivity in the samples containing excess unlabeled 25-hydroxy vitamin D had been added instep (3) with those to which no unlabeled 25-hyroxy vitamin D had been added to determine vitamin D binding proteins in the urine with the with the amount of binding to samples prepared in step (3) acting as a standard for amount of binding samples to which 25-hydroxy vitamin D has not been added.

7. (previously amended)

The method of claim 6 wherein the sample tested is human urine

8. (previously amended)

The method of claim 6 wherein high 25-hydroxyvitain D binding activity in the urine is deemed indicative of salt sensitivity or predisposition to salt-associated hypertension.

9. (previously added)

The kit of claim 5 lacking antibodies to 25-hydroxyvitamin D.

10. (previously added)

A method of calculating specific 25-hydroxyvitamin D binding activity in urine samples of an individual by subtracting binding in samples in the presence of both labeled and excess unlabeled 25-hydroxyvitamine D from binding in samples containing only labeled 25-hydroxyvitamin D_3 but to which no unlabeled 25-hydroxyvitamin D has been added to determine salt sensitivity.

11. (previously amended)

The kit of claim 5 containing, additionally, dextran coated charcoal.